

Message Text

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ACTION AF-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 PER-05 A-01 /012 W

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O R 211317Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3941

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MASERU 0350

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: APER BC LT WZ US

SUBJ: AMB BOLEN'S TRAVEL

REF : A. GABORONE 369

B. MASERU 347

1. INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS THIS DATE WITH GOL CHIEF OF PROTOCOL ON GENERAL TIMING OF AMB BOLEN'S VISIT REVEALED WHOLLY UNEXPECTED INFORMATION THAT IT INCONVENIENT FOR KING TO RECEIVE CREDENTIALS ON ANY DAY OTHER THAN A THURSDAY. THIS POINT NEVER RAISED IN EARLIER DISCUSSION WITH CHIEF OF PROTOCOL. REASON FOR INCONVENIENCE IS KING'S STUDY SCHEDULE (HE IS WORKING TOWARD OXFORD DEGREE UNDER SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT).

2. WE EXPLORED POSSIBILITY OF EXCEPTION TO KING'S ROUTINE BUT ARE TOLD APR 16 AND 17 WOULD BE TOO EARLY IN ANY CASE AS ALL APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS MIGHT NOT BE BACK IN PLACE THEN AFTER LONG EASTER WEEKEND.

3. BEST PROSPECT FOR SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION APPEARS REVERSAL OF SWAZILAND/LESOTHO SCHEDULES IF STILL ACCEPTABLE TO EMBASSY MBABANE. BUT SWAZILAND MAY ALSO BE RELUCTANT TO SCHEDULE CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION IN FEW DAYS FOLLOWING EASTER.

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4. IF NO PROBLEMS SWAZILAND, FOLLOWING SCHEDULE SUGGESTED:

DATE	FLT	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL
APR 13	SA-107	GABORONE 1210	JOHANNESBURG 1310
(APR 13 AND 14 AT HOLIDAY INN JOHANNESBURG)			
APR 15	WZ-111	JOHANNESBURG 0800	MANZINI 0910
APR 17	SA-123	MANZINI 0800	JOHANNESBURG 0910
(APR 17 OVERNIGHT HOLIDAY INN JOHANNESBURG)			
APR 18	SA-361	JOHANNESBURG 0730	BLOEMFONTEIN 0815
(TRAVEL BY CAR TWO HOURS TO MASERU)			
APR 19	SA-132	MASERU 1145	JOHANNESBURG 1255
(APR 19 OVERNIGHT HOLIDAY INN JOHANNESBURG)			
APR 20	SA-108	JOHANNESBURG 0700	GABORONE 0805

5. IF TIGHT SCHEDULE SUGGESTED ABOVE PRESENTS INSURMOUNTABLE PROBLEMS, SUGGEST AMBASSADOR PLAN PRESENT CREDENTIALS IN LESOTHO ON THURSDAY OF FOLLOWING WEEK.
HAUGHT

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